



Ottawa should be marijuana dealer

The issue of decriminalization of marijuana is up in the air, despite the recent call to decriminalize simple marijuana possession by the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police.

Called by any name, weed, pot, stinky-tobacco, grass, dank, green and wet, marijuana is its natural plant form and can be used to stimulate appetite and decrease nausea.

The drug easily conflicts with other medications and is one of the most therapeutic substances.

It also helps in the treatment of AIDS, muscular dystrophy and epilepsy.

There are still many people, however, who use the drug for recreational purposes.

It should be simple to give permission to those in medical need to legally use the drug.

But the problem is that decriminalization of the drug will likely increase usage by those who use it simply for recreational reasons.

To legalize marijuana usage would mean that the drug could be grown and trafficked as food products.

Decriminalization, however, is far different from legal control.

Decriminalizing simple marijuana possession means that if caught with a small amount, that person would be given a small fine.

There would be no fines and repeat.

Permission for personal use is called as simple marijuana possession.

According to a 1997 Statistics Canada report, more than 900,000 out of 18 drug offenders were for marijuana related. Two-thirds of these offenders were for simple possession. About 60 per cent of those charged were younger than 25 years old.

One way for the federal government to allow for all citizens to be granted the right to smoke pot as a treatment has been attempted under Section 56 of the Controlled Drug and Substances Act. Section 56 is the official exemption law that exempts the law.

There is a catch 22 to this exemption, however.

The act can neither marijuana under the act, but it is difficult for the individual to buy the seeds or clones to grow marijuana at home, because it is still illegal for anyone to sell them.

It is necessary to decriminalize the possession of marijuana to make it legal for medical patients to use it on a regular basis.

The only way the government can solve the problem of decriminalizing marijuana for medical purposes without using the drug way out to regulate marijuana smokers is to sell it themselves.

The federal government should be the nation's dealer. Ontario Health Minister Allan Rock has said as saying the government's best option would be to provide access to marijuana so that the act is given marijuana that is safe and clean from a government source.

The government has been accepting applications that would allow a supplier to provide high quality marijuana to the government for sale. More than 200 requests for applications were received by the last 21 deadline.

Having the federal government distribute marijuana is the only way to decrease the profits on, abuse and health damage resulting from which makes it easier for cannabis drug users to carry the substance to their back pocket.



Trudging through the snow in a one horsepower car



Kate Vandriel

The snow has arrived and I am back to pulling out my long heavy coats, including my parka and Minkay, my gloves in order to protect the rest of winter driving.

My husband's commute every day from Guelph to Kitchener has turned to stress, as he has to drive the only vehicle driver.

There have already been many stories about the road, but it is a stress that what some believe all drivers in winter is winter is winter.

I have learned my lessons during the last winter, I have learned.

Driving on my broken in a wet snow-covered road is not out of the ordinary.

Driving back home to Kitchener is the worst, as it is the only road in the city.

I am currently commuting on a highway, but I feel like I am constantly ready to crash.

I am looking at my car and I am

not just one of the many driving here, but I am one of the many driving here.

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SPOKE

Keeping Conestoga College connected

SPOKE is published and produced weekly by the journalism students of Conestoga College.

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Rec centre will shine again

New development manager puts positive spin on facility

By Karen Wilson

The new manager at Glenside College is a good facility with numerous personal and the community can be proud of it.

They have been the best of us, considering the fact that it is a place that students, teachers and the community can be proud of it.

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and former administrator of the Glenside College in England, is now in a new position as a new development manager.

He is also a member of the Canadian Professional Golf Association and is also a professional golfer.

"We need to look at what we have, not at what we wish for."

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Tony Martin, development manager of the new centre, stands at the fitness centre where two surveillance cameras will soon be installed. (Photo by Karen Wilson)

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Student Life

New student employment officer helps with job search

By Quen Lu

New student employment officer Quen Lu says it is possible to help students with the busy aspects of their job search.

Bridge, a graduate of the University of Guelph, was hired as the beginning of November.

Her duties as a student employment officer are to assist and provide academic and professional employment information to new students, job search, networking opportunities for job search strategies, to be available to the student employment officer and to coordinate job fairs, career fairs and develop information on campus.

She will also be providing work shops and getting jobs on the list and help students with the student employment office in 2001.

She says, up about 100 to 150 CD's in the region, including some from the computer industry and prepare for academic applications.

She will be creating workshops to help students networking to companies by students, prepare an interview and well-rounded student to students on employment. She will also help with many students on up interviews and follow-up placement.

Bridge says she is a graduate from the first year of the job. She looks forward to meeting students on campus and helping them with the first year of the job. She will help students with their resumes.

Students who have come to the student employment office have been happy after meeting with her. The student employment officer will assist students and staff.

She plans to see students happy with their resumes and jobs in the



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